


REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to delete the multiple dependencies of claim 9 and 14 and to remove the reference numerals in claims 1, 3, 6-10 and 13-14, thereby placing such claims in condition for examination and reducing the required PTO-filing fee.

Also, the abstract has been amended in order to remove the reference numerals therein. The changes to the abstract are submitted in the form of a substitute abstract. A copy of the abstract with changes marked therein is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

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May 17, 2005

ABSTRACT

A component-mounted substrate ~~(3B)~~ moved to a
5 specified substrate position ~~(P3)~~ by a substrate holding-and-moving
device ~~(26, 28)~~ is delivered from the top of the substrate holding-
and-moving device to a substrate discharge holder ~~(38, 39)~~, and then
while the substrate discharge holder is not moved, the substrate
holding-and-moving device is moved to another substrate position
10 ~~(P2)~~, where a new substrate ~~(3A)~~ is received. Consequently, a later-
executed movement operation for moving the new substrate to a
substrate mounting region ~~(P0)~~ by the substrate holding-and-moving
device and a transfer operation for transferring the component-
mounted substrate to an unloader unit ~~(34)~~ by the substrate
15 discharge holder may be performed in parallel with each other
without being influenced from each other's operation.